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SGWU/COMMUNIQUÉ

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for release upon receipt

The traditional lecture-seminar-examination routine might be all right for some profs but it's not good enough for Francelia Butler. Mrs. Butler, who is in Montreal to give a course at the Sir George Williams English summer institute, is one of the world's foremost experts in the field of children's literature.

Mrs. Butler has written several books and articles relating to children's literature and has held several international fellowships at European universities. She is also the editor of Children's Literature: The Great Excluded and a member of the Conference of Editors of Learned Journals.

Her classroom technique involves getting her students to write rhymes, fables, stories and even short plays for children. She reasons that this experience can be invaluable to the students, most of whom are involved with children on a day-to-day basis. "One producer of children's plays in Connecticut," she explains, "read over 800 published children's plays without finding a good one. One might as well learn to write one's own and save time and royalties."

Two of the students in the class this summer, Angela Teitelman and Paula Stromberg, are collecting Canadian fables for future books and another student, Steve Suite, is adapting some of his writings for the teaching of Eskimos. Bob Walker and Alan Schwartz have written a play, "The Land of Nobody", which they plan to produce in Montreal.

Mrs. Butler also manages to enliven her classes by inviting a series of guest lecturers. So far this year Princess Redwing, a Narragansett Indian who is a member of the Speakers' Committee of the United Nations, and Dr. Julie Carlson McAlpine, daughter of French Canadian novelist Natalie Savage Carlson and a PhD in children's literature in her own right, have both appeared.

Graphically speaking, the most interesting presentation will take place on August 7 when puppeteer Michael Michanczyk will give a demonstration of his art. Photographers welcome. Time: 9 a.m. Place: Room 613 of the Hall Building, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.

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John McNamee
Information Office

NOTE: More from Dr. Francelia Butler, 879-5932.